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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#6/AMST.
B
Cyle
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Applicant: Welty
Serial No.: 10/007,021
Filed: 11/05/2001
Group Art Unit: 1775
Examiner: Zimmerman, John J.
Title: COATED ARTICLE

RESPONSE

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1700

Sir:

This paper is responsive to the Office Action mailed on February 27, 2002. Claims 22-41 remain in this application. Claims 22 has been amended and new claims 28-41 have been added. Please amend the application as follows.

AMENDMENT

IN THE CLAIMS:

22. (AMENDED) A faucet having a coating on at least a portion of a surface of said faucet, said faucet comprising::

a faucet substrate; and

B1 a coating including a strike layer on said faucet substrate consisting essentially of zirconium, titanium or zirconium-titanium alloy on said surface, and a layer on said strike layer consisting essentially of zirconium compound, titanium compound, or zirconium-titanium alloy compound on said strike layer.

Please add the following new claims:

B2 28. (NEW) The article of claim 22, wherein said faucet substrate is copper, steel, brass, zinc, aluminum or nickel.